POLS 476-01:
World Politics II: Major Actors and Contemporary Issues
Spring 2011, Mondays, 15:40, 16:40 (extra hour) and Thursdays 13:40, 14:40 in A 229
Instructor: Lerna Yanik, Ph.D.
Email: yanikl@bilkent.edu.tr, Web: www.bilkent.edu.tr/~yanikl
Office: T 372, Office Hours: Tuesdays 15:30-17:30

This course analyzes contemporary international politics combining international relations theory and current events in world politics. In the first several weeks of the course, first we will cover current debates in international relations theory, then the focus will be on the role that major world powers--current and future--play in the post-9/11 international order. Then, in the third part, we will concentrate pressing issues in world politics such as terrorism, environment, globalization, human rights etc., The overall goal of this course is to make students aware of the current issues and problems in world politics as well as familiarize them with basic international relations theory.

Reading Materials:
The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations, 5e, by John Baylis, et al eds., (Oxford University Press, 2010) will be the main text. This book is available for sale in the Meteksan bookstore. In addition to the chapters from this book, there will be other articles from various scholarly and popular journals and magazines. A reserve copy of all these (chapters and articles) will be left with the copy shop in the entrance floor of the FEASS building.

Assignments and Grading:
1. Quiz: (3 X 10%)=> 30% (Thu, February 24th; Thu, April 7th; Thu, May 5th)
   There will be THREE quizzes in short answer format. Each of these quizzes will account for 10% of your overall grade. IMPORTANT NOTE: Since one of these quizzes is a bonus, if you miss one quiz, you can make up for it. As a result, there will not be any make-up for any of these quizzes, no matter what your excuse is.

2. Midterm: 30% (in class)=> (Mon, March 14th)

3. Final: 50% (in class)=> (TBD by the Dean’s Office)
=>TOTAL: 110% (10% points bonus, that is)

If You Want to Get an ‘A’ in this course......
YOU
(1) should not skip any classes,
(2) should do the reading assignments regularly,
(3) should take notes while doing the readings (this will save you enormous amount of time when you are studying for the exams)
(4) should think critically and comparatively while doing the readings and listening to the lectures.
Make-up, Grading and Academic Dishonesty Policy:

MAKE UP: Since, unfortunately, medical reporting system in Turkey is openly misused (or abused, to be more correct), I reserve the right to decide as who deserves the right to take the make-up exam. In addition to fake medical reports, excuses like “I have another exam/paper due the same day,” ‘our family pet just passed away,’ ‘I broke up/quarreled with the girlfriend/boyfriend/spouse,’ ‘the alarm clock did not go off so couldn’t make it to the exam,’ I had to attend the meeting at the Student Council,” or ‘I was organizing the May Fest,” will not be accepted as excuses that entitle the student for a make-up. To reiterate one more time, heavy workload, extracurricular activities do not justify your absence in class.

GRADING: At the end of the semester, before asking me why got the grade that you got, please do ask yourself how your performance was for this course. Below is what Bilkent University administration asks from the instructors to keep in mind while evaluating students’ performance.

A+: Truly OUTSTANDING performance. [An indication of having achieved a full grasp and an exceptional analysis and synthesis of the material combined with a display of superb analytical and writing performance. This grade is left to the discretion of the instructor and only 1 student per class with a size larger than 25 can have it.]
A: Excellent [Superb performance in assignments, full attendance, and the indication of the having done all the assigned readings.]
A-: Very good.
B+: Good.
B: Somewhat good.
B-: More than adequate.
C+, C: Varying degrees of acceptable/adequate performance during the course.
C-, D+, D: These grades imply less than adequate performance but they will enable the student to pass the course.
F: Less than minimally acceptable performance during the course.
FX: Failure as a result of not fulfilling more than 50% of the assignment requirements of the course.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Academic dishonesty is not tolerated and punished in accordance with the university regulations. Regulations regarding academic dishonesty can be found at http://www.provost.bilkent.edu.tr/procedures/DisipKopya.htm

A note on Attendance and Grade-Beggars:
I don’t take attendance. I believe that you are all grown ups and know that every action has a consequence. This means that if you don’t show up for classes your likelihood of succeeding in this course is low. Since you are grown ups, I assume that you are fully cognizant of this fact. And, please, please, please, please, after the final exam, don’t come up to me asking for a grade that you really didn’t deserve. I give my students more than enough chances to get good grades. If you can’t make good use of these opportunities this is absolutely your fault, not mine.

Making Use of the Extra Class Hour:
The classes will be held on Mondays 15:40 and Thursdays 13:40 and 14:40. Monday 16:40 will be the extra hour allocated for this class. I will let you know in advance when we will make use of these extra slots.
Class Schedule:
PART I- The “New World Order”
Week 1: Introduction
January 31  First Class Meeting
From the Cold War to the World Economic Crisis
February 3    John Baylis et al, *The Globalization of World Politics*, Ch. 4

PART II- Theories of International Relations
Week 2: Realism and Liberalism
February 7, 10 John Baylis et al, *The Globalization of World Politics*, Ch. 5, Ch. 6
Week 3: Neo-realism and neo-liberalism
February 14, 17 John Baylis et al, *The Globalization of World Politics*, Ch. 7
Week 4: Marxist and Critical Theories of International Relations
February 21, 24 John Baylis et al, *The Globalization of World Politics*, Ch. 8
February 24 Quiz #1

Week 5: Constructivism, Poststructuralism, Postcolonialism
February 28, March 3 John Baylis et al, *The Globalization of World Politics*, Ch. 9, Ch.10, Ch. 11

PART III- Major Actors in the Post 9/11 World
Week 6: The United States
March 7, 10
• Rosati and Scott, *United States Foreign Policy*, pp. 35-37
  _r=1&pagewanted=print
• “Patterns of Speech: 75 Years of the State of the Union Address,” *The New York Times*, January 25, 2011

Week 7:
March 14: Midterm exam 15:40-16:40 (2 hour slot)
March 17: NO CLASS

Week 8:
March 21: NO CLASS
March 24: Movie: No Man’s Land

Week 9: Europe: a Superpower or a Super state, or something else?
March 28 (two hour session)
Week 9 and 10: Russia
March 31, April 4 (two hour session), April 7

• James Hugh, “EU relations with Russia: partnership or asymmetric interdependency?” in The EU’s Foreign Policy in an Evolving International System: the Road to Convergence, available at http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/651/

• Margot Light, “Russian Foreign Policy,” in Developments in Russian Politics 7, Ch.13.

April 7 Quiz #2
China and India


• Minxin Pei, “Asia’s Rise: Think Again,” Foreign Policy, July/August 2009, pp. 32-36.

Week 11: SPRING BREAK NO CLASS

PART III- Issues in the Post-9/11 World:

Week 12: Changing Understanding of Security
April 18, 21
John Baylis et al., The Globalization of World Politics, Ch. 13, Ch. 29.

Week 13: Intervention, Human Rights and International Law
April 25, 28

• John Baylis and Steve Smith, The Globalization of World Politics, Ch. 30, Ch. 31, Ch. 17.

Week 14: Globalization, Global Trade and Finance
May 2, 5

May 5 Quiz #3

• Baylis et al., The Globalization of World Politics, Ch. 15, Ch. 27


Week 15: Environment and Poverty
May 9, 12

• Baylis et al., The Globalization of World Politics, Ch. 21, Ch. 28.